



CSPCMUN2017

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# Counter Terrorism Committee

**Committee:** Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)

**Topic:** Gaining Control Over Terrorist Economic Accounts

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“Men make history and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better.” – Harry S. Truman

Dear Delegates,

First of all, welcome to CSPCMUN2017. It is an honor to have you in this year's edition. We hope that this simulation is a memorable experience. We are confident that during these three days you will develop skills such as leadership, negotiating, and critical thinking while representing a specific country. We expect that in this model you meet new people who will encourage you to make an impact in our world. I am sure that you will prepare yourself enough so you can get to agreements and help in the resolution of the committee's problematic. We hope that you enjoy this simulation as much as we will. Any doubts you may have, do not hesitate on asking us.

Sincerely,

Mariana Lazo

Chief of Moderators



## **I. Committee Overview**

Guided by Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005) , the CTC works to bolster the ability of the United Nations Members of State to prevent terrorist acts both within their borders and across regions . The CTC's Resolution 1373 (2001) , adopted unanimously on September 28th 2001 , calls upon Member States to implement a number of measures intended to enhance their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities , including steps to:

- Criminalize the financing of terrorism.
- Freeze without delay any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism.
- Deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups.
- Suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists.
- Share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts.
- Cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition, and prosecution of those involved in such acts;
- Criminalize active and passive assistance for terrorism in domestic law, and bring violators to justice.

## **II. Topic Information**

Terrorism is the premeditated use or threat of use of violence by individuals or subnational groups to obtain a political or social objective through the intimidation of a large audience, beyond that of the immediate victim. Although the motives of terrorists may differ, their actions follow a standard pattern with terrorist incidents assuming a variety of forms: airplane hijackings, kidnappings, assassinations, threats, bombings, and suicide attacks. Terrorist attacks are intended to apply sufficient pressures to a government so that it grants political concessions. If a besieged government views the anticipated costs of future terrorist actions as greater than the costs of conceding to terrorist demands, then a government will make some accommodation. These included passing legislation specifically criminalizing terrorist financing, requiring financial institutions to report suspicious transactions, creating a greater degree of international cooperation in tracking down terrorist financiers, and ratifying the UN convention on financing terrorism, a step that has been taken by 150 countries.

## A) History of the Topic

While terrorism itself is menacing to the countries worldwide, it is the capability within the organizations to hack their way into the governmental security firewalls, gaining access to majorly private documents without breaking a sweat that should be terrifying every soul that thinks of this global issue. Any economical use these people have, can't be reasonable when it's stolen from the IMF, or some other major economic power.

Terrorist bank accounts are the most annoying thing in the world, since these people know the governmental strategies, they know the capabilities of the CIA which makes everything very complicated. This may seem as a simple action of just knowing their bank account, which in and of itself is hard enough, but in reality there's a lot more to it. Firewalls and passwords that make no sense like make it impossible to get into these people's account.

According to author Eben Kaplan, in his article "Tracking Down Terrorist Financing", the most vital thing to note here, by the time the government decides to implement a new strategy for defending their precious information, ISIS already has hands on it.

## B) Current Issues

**Iraq:** In late August 2009, a string of truck bombs rocked Iraq. It led Iraq and Syria to withdraw ambassadors from Damascus and Baghdad after Iraqi officials publicly and angrily accused Syria of hosting foreign fighter networks that were plotting and facilitating attacks in Iraq, which included the two purported masterminds of these most recent attacks. Days later, Iraqi officials aired a supposed confession by a suspected al-Qaeda militant from Saudi Arabia who claimed he not only entered Iraq from Syria, but also admitted that he was first trained in an al-Qaeda training camp there, which was led by a Syrian intelligence officer. Whether the details of his confession ultimately ring true or not, the long established Syrian "rat routes" through which foreign fighters, as well as funds and supplies are moved into Iraq, are real. They are also part of a larger economic phenomenon.

**Pakistan:** Pakistan has been suffering from terrorism for the last three decades. Due to its geo-strategic position, Pakistan became a centre stage of terrorist activities. When the USSR attacked Afghanistan in 1979, Pakistan being a neighboring country had also to face the brunt of that invasion. It was first the Afghans who started their resistance with old weapons. Pakistan finding itself to be

the next in the list of conquered countries by the USSR, had to retaliate by helping Afghans to stop the Soviet invasion. Afterwards, the US and her western allies joined the bandwagon to counter the spread of communist ideology. Pakistan served as the primary logistical channel for the Afghan resistance. The military aid from Pakistan and the US and financial backing from Arab countries enabled Afghans to drive the USSR out of Afghanistan in 1989.

**Nigeria:** The Central Bank of Nigeria has ordered banks and other financial institutions to report account activities that belong to terrorist groups. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa, with a population of 133 million in 2002. It is also home to the world's sixth largest Muslim population. It has estimated oil reserves of 27 billion barrels (over 2.6 percent of global proven reserves). Given Nigeria's location and ports, the country could be an economic hub for western and central Africa. Regrettably, political instability and military coups, combined with inept economic governance and endemic corruption, have squandered Nigeria's advantages.

Since gaining independence in 1960, Nigeria has experienced civil war and numerous coups, with only 13 years of democratic government. To secure their power base, past governments enacted repressive economic policies and undermined the rule of law. The Index of Economic Freedom ranks Nigeria as a "mostly unfree" economy due to high trade barriers, heavy regulation, and excessive government intervention. Instability and misguided economic policies have curtailed foreign investment outside of the oil sector.

Transparency International's 2003 Corruption Perceptions Index ranked Nigeria as the second most corrupt nation in the world. Although President Olusegun Obasanjo has pledged to end corruption and adopt economic reforms, vested interests oppose change. As U.S. Secretary of the Treasury John Snow has noted, "While some steps were taken to introduce transparency and accountability, little change was seen in budgeting practices, contract awards, monetary policy, privatization, or public service reform."

Poor governance and lawlessness have enormous costs. Nigeria's per capita gross domestic product (GDP) was \$248 in 2002--lower than in 1970 in constant terms. Violence, kidnapping, sabotage, and other criminal activity in the southern oil-rich region often disrupt production--dramatically affecting an economy in which the oil sector accounted for 65 percent of budget revenue, 95 percent of exports, and 20 percent of the GDP in 2001.

**Syria:** Contrary to other Arab countries who support terrorism and carry out attacks almost openly, for many years Syria has attempted to conceal its direct

involvement in terrorism. The Syrians have, therefore, since the 1970s, prevented the staging of terrorist attacks against Israel from Syrian territory, and have preferred to act indirectly through Palestinian and other terrorist organizations. Despite Syria's "indirect involvement" strategy (and perhaps because of it), President Assad's operatives have had a hand in numerous terrorist attacks in the world, in general, and in the Middle East, in particular. Comparing Syrian strategy to that of Libya, former Israeli Chief of Staff Moshe Levy said in May 1986: "Syria is more dominant, more sophisticated and less vociferous than Libya, but it is not less responsible than Libya for terrorism."

### **C) UN ACTION**

The 9/11 attacks brought an international sense of urgency to disrupting terrorists' financial networks. Within a few weeks, the UN Security Council adopted a wide-ranging resolution demanding countries take action to suppress terrorist financing. The following month, the Financial Action Task Force, an intergovernmental body, issued a list of recommendations that became the basis for many governments' efforts. These included passing legislation specifically criminalizing terrorist financing, requiring financial institutions to report suspicious transactions, creating a greater degree of international cooperation in tracking down terrorist financiers, and ratifying the UN convention on financing terrorism, a step that has been taken by 150 countries.

### **III. Conclusion**

In conclusion, terrorism is the use or threat of violence by individuals or subnational groups to obtain a political or social objective through the intimidation of a large audience, beyond that of the immediate victim. While terrorism itself is menacing to the countries worldwide, it is the capability within the organizations to hack their way into the governmental security firewalls, gaining access to majorly private documents without breaking a sweat that should be terrifying every soul that thinks of this global issue. In order to conclude this series of events, we need to get more drastic measures, improving firewalls against criminals who seek access to economic paradise. Also it's important to note that as long as terrorism exists, the problem can only grow.

### **IV. Essential Questions**

1. What do terrorists seek with the financing they achieve?
2. How can we intercept criminal bank accounts?
3. Is there a way to efficiently protect governmental files?
4. How do terrorists affect global economy?

5. Which actions have taken place to stop this issue?
6. Does your delegation have any treaties about this conflict?
7. Are there any solutions that might be helpful on this issue, that is already being implemented in the world?

## **V. References**

Kaplan, Eben. "Tracking Down Terrorist Financing." *Council on Foreign Relations*. Council on Foreign Relations, 2006. Web. 06 Dec. 2016.

"UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy | Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force." *United Nations*. United Nations, n.d. Web. 06 Dec. 2016.

